

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-03 PA-01 PRS-01

USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 PM-03 SS-15 NSCE-00 /066 R

DRAFTED BY IO/SCT:LCAVANAUGH

APPROVED BY IO/SCT:JPTREVITHICK

ACDA:CVANDOREN (INFO)

OES/AE:RSIMPKINS (INFO)

ERDA:JAMMONS (INFO)

S/PRS:RFUNSETH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA, VN

SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF REACTOR FROM VIETNAM

1. RADIO NEWS THIS AFTERNOON INCLUDED ITEM THAT US WAS
REMOVING NUCLEAR REACTOR FROM DA LAT, VIETNAM.

2. FYI. FOLLOWING IS CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE PROVIDED
FOR STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN:

QUESTION: IS THERE A NUCLEAR REACTOR IN VIET-NAM?

ANSWER: SINCE 1964 THERE HAS BEEN A SMALL(250 KILOWATT)
RESEARCH REACTOR IN DA LAT IN TUYEN DUC PROVINCE,
NORTH OF SAIGON. THIS REACTOR WAS PROVIDED BY THE UNITED
STATES THROUGH THE ATOMS FOR PEACE PROGRAM. THE PRIMARY
USE OF THE REACTOR IS MEDICAL RESEARCH.

QUESTION: IS THE REACTOR LIKELY TO BE CAPTURED BY THE NORTH
VIETNAMESE?

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ANSWER: THE REACTOR IS LOCATED IN DA LAT WHICH IS CON-

TROLLED BY GOVERNMENT FORCES. WE HAVE ASKED THE VIET-
NAMESE AUTHORITIES TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS.

QUESTION: IF THE REACTOR FALLS INTO THE HANDS OF THE
NORTH VIETNAMESE COULD THE FUEL BE USED TO MAKE ATOMIC
BOMBS?

ANSWER: NO. THE REACTOR HAS ABSOLUTELY NO MILITARY
SIGNIFICANCE, AND SERVES ONLY PEACEFUL RESEARCH PURPOSES.
THE REACTOR FUEL, WHICH IS THE PROPERTY OF THE U.S.

GOVERNMENT AND HAS BEEN ON LOAN TO THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE
GOVERNMENT, HAS BEEN REMOVED FOR SAFEKEEPING.
END FYI.

KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR REACTORS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 31 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Subject: REMOVAL OF REACTOR FROM VIETNAM
TAGS: MNUC, VS, IAEA
To: IAEA VIENNA
Type: TE
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